



**Statement on behalf of the Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Initiative for the
General Debate of the 3rd Session of the Preparatory Committee of the Treaty on
the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
28 April 2025**

We, the members of the Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Initiative (NPDI), Australia, Canada, Chile, Germany, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, Nigeria, the Philippines, Poland, Türkiye and the United Arab Emirates, offer our full support to you, Ambassador Agyeman, as Chair of this PrepCom.

1. As the last PrepCom in this Review Cycle, we urge all States parties to work cooperatively, to honestly assess progress, and to advance our shared goal of a world free of nuclear weapons. Our efforts must be guided by the knowledge that the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) continues to be instrumental in constraining nuclear proliferation; providing the indispensable framework for nuclear disarmament and; guaranteeing the right of States parties to the use of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes and facilitating this access.
2. The NPDI reiterates its unwavering commitment to the full implementation of the NPT as the cornerstone of the international disarmament and non-proliferation regime and an essential element for international peace and security. We call on all states not yet party to the Treaty to accede to it immediately. The integrity of the Treaty must be maintained and its universality promoted.
3. This year the NPDI celebrates its 15th anniversary. Since its founding in 2010, the strength of the NPDI, as a cross-regional group, has been its ability to formulate proposals across all three pillars that reflect the shared ambitions of its diverse membership. The NPDI was founded on and remains committed to effective multilateralism. This is core to our efforts and we consider it essential to the success of this meeting and achieving Treaty objectives.
4. All State Parties must uphold their obligations and commitments under the NPT. We urge each nuclear-weapon State to use this PrepCom to explain what steps they are taking to deliver under the NPT and to action commitments in their 3 January 2022 statement affirming that “a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought.”
5. The nuclear-weapon States have the responsibility to implement obligations under Article VI of the NPT on disarmament – these are integral to the Treaty. The NPDI expresses grave concern at reports that the number of warheads in global military stockpiles is increasing, ending a sustained 30-year decline. Put simply, the world is now heading in the wrong direction. We urge nuclear weapon States to urgently reconsider any actions contributing to this trend which take us further away from our ultimate goal of a world free of nuclear weapons.
6. Our ultimate goal is a world free of nuclear weapons. We are deeply concerned about the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons. It is in the interest of all nations that nuclear weapons are never used again. The NPDI reiterates that the only way to completely eliminate risks is through complete, verifiable and irreversible nuclear

disarmament. Nevertheless, as long as nuclear weapons exist, actions must be taken to reduce the risk of their use.

7. The NPDI recalls the importance of the New START Treaty to nuclear arms control. Resumption of the implementation of all the treaty's provisions, and commencement of negotiation of a follow-on agreement by both parties, are increasingly urgent.

8. Transparency is indispensable for nuclear disarmament. It builds trust and confidence, facilitating further reductions in nuclear arsenals towards their total elimination. Strengthening NPT reporting and accountability mechanisms, including through interactive dialogue and standardised reporting, is a useful tool in this regard. The NPDI calls for concrete measures to be coordinated at this meeting.

9. There remain serious concerns for the international security environment, with serious consequences also for the implementation of the NPT. Noting ongoing conflicts in various regions, we remain gravely concerned by threats of use of nuclear weapons. We fully support the IAEA's efforts to advance nuclear safety and security, including in Ukraine especially through its mission at Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant.

10. The NPDI is committed to the goal of the complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula. We strongly condemn North Korea's ongoing ballistic missile launches in violation of relevant United Nations Security Council (UNSC) resolutions. We strongly urge North Korea to comply fully with the NPT and IAEA safeguards and to dismantle all its nuclear weapons, other weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missiles in accordance with UNSC resolutions. We call on all UN Member States to ensure full implementation of the relevant UNSC resolutions, which remain in full force, to uphold the global non-proliferation regime.

11. The NPDI notes with deep concern Iran's continued expansion of its nuclear programme, including uranium enrichment activities, increasing stockpiles of highly enriched uranium, and failure to implement its nuclear related commitments under the JCPOA. Iran's full cooperation with the IAEA is essential to resolve all outstanding safeguards issues in a timely manner. We welcome IAEA Director General's recent engagements in Tehran, as well as renewed talks between the US and Iran. We remain supportive of efforts for a negotiated settlement of the Iranian nuclear issue as the Termination Day of the UNSCR2231 is fast approaching.

12. The NPDI welcomes progress towards the universality of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) over this review cycle and urges all states that have not yet ratified this treaty to do so. We deeply regret that the remaining Annex 2 States now number nine and urge all states to refrain from actions that bring us further from entry into force. It is critical that all states maintain their moratoria against nuclear testing.

13. The NPDI stresses that the commencement of negotiations on a treaty on fissile material for use in nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices remains an international priority. We call on the Conference on Disarmament to start negotiations on this treaty without delay and encourage States parties to sustain efforts to this end.

14. The NPDI emphasises the central role of the IAEA safeguards system in the non-proliferation regime. The IAEA Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement (CSA) in combination with an additional protocol (AP), and, where applicable, the revised Small Quantities Protocol (SQP), is the current international verification standard. We urge states that have not yet done so to conclude CSAs and APs and revise any SQPs without delay.

15. The IAEA plays an essential role in assisting states to peacefully use nuclear energy, science and technology, recognizing the prerogative of each State to establish its own national energy policy. This pillar of the NPT is crucial for addressing global challenges and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. The NPTI is committed to further improving safeguards, nuclear safety and security, and to ensuring access to the benefits of nuclear energy, science and technology for peaceful uses.

16. To achieve our NPT goals, the NPTI underscores the importance of disarmament and non-proliferation education. This year marks 80 years since the use of nuclear weapons in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. We must continue to raise awareness of the realities of the use of nuclear weapons, particularly among younger generations, including by visiting Hiroshima and Nagasaki and engaging with the Hibakusha.

17. For this review cycle, NPTI has issued working papers on Transparency and Accountability, Promotion of the Peaceful Use of Nuclear Technology, the CTBT and an FMCT and disarmament education. We commend these working papers to you as examples of the spirit of consensus which we hope will imbue our work over the next two weeks. We must all take responsibility over this period to open space for genuine dialogue, narrow our differences and build genuine consensus.